DECLASSIFIED EXCISE RDS 1/1984 E

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 27, 1954

At the delegation meeting this morning Foster said [redacted] he wanted three of the "B's", Bowie, Bohlen and Bruce, to constitute themselves an informal committee to study and make suggestions on forward planning regarding problems that were likely to be presented during the conference.

I went to see Blankenhorn at his request. He has an office in the Am Zoo Hotel. He hopes the three Western powers will have positive solutions for the settlement of German affairs (which he knows they have) to be put forward before the Russians come up with propositions of their own. In other words, we must not be thrown on the defensive or jockeyed into adopting a negative position. Frank Roberts had spoken to him of the British paper on German unification which will be tabled after item one (Five Power Conference) is disposed of. He told Blankenhorn a copy of this paper would be furnished him, but robably only a short time before it is tabled. Blankenhorn is anxious to have it sufficiently in advance to forward it to the Chancellor and obtain his reactions to it. This is outside the field of my competence but I will take it up with Jim Conant.

On the way to lunch, E. and I stopped and bought a few antiques -- prints of monkeys and of flowers, as well as two Meissen plates. Yesterday she had bought a fine 18th Century blue and white tureen made by a small factory in Thuringia.

We lunched with Mike Hoffman, of the New York Times, at Schlicter's, on smoked salmon, weiner schnitzel and beer. I am growing fat on German food, or it is more correct to say fatter! I now tip the scales at 176 pounds, six more than when I left Paris.

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Chip, Avis, E. and I dined at a Swabian restaurant called Kottler's where we watered (sic) down our worries.

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